

The Borough's Path to Resiliency Since Sandy

Dear Residents,

It has been almost 4 years since Sandy, and the Borough has worked hard to prepare ourselves for future storms. In light of the of extreme weather across the country, I would like to share with you what our Borough has accomplished since the storm.

In total, Hurricane Sandy cost the Borough nearly \$6.5 million. Between FEMA and Borough insurance payments, \$5.2 million has been recovered. Final reporting and all additional moneys due from FEMA are expected to be reconciled by year's end. All the funds that were borrowed by the Borough for storm cleanup and repairs were repaid in full last year.

Planning:

The Borough has received close to \$400,000 in grant funding from the State of New Jersey to update all of our Borough's planning documents, including: Master Plan, Flood Plan, Emergency Operations Plan, Debris Management Plan, as well as incorporating GIS (Geographic Information System) into day to day Borough operations. The Borough was also able to upgrade our Building Permit Software for the Building Department, which enables us to more efficiently process permits, particularly after a storm when recovery takes place. With this grant funding, we have been able to accomplish 20 years' worth of planning at no cost to the Borough taxpayer.

Prevention:

Sandy brought record flooding to our Borough. FEMA reimbursed the Borough for damages and provided funding for the installation of a number of flood preventative measures. We have since installed flood-proofing measures on critical infrastructure located in flood zones. These include removable flood doors to prevent water from infiltrating sanitary sewer pump stations and the main Public Works building. We are in the process of adding standby generators to 4 sewer pump stations in flood-prone areas, and are upgrading underground fuel storage tanks located in a flood zone to avoid critical setbacks during future flood events.



The new flood door on the main pump station entryway

What have our residents done?

Residents have offered the Borough their overwhelming support as we work together to recover from the storm.

Our Zoning Officer has reported that since Sandy, 140 homes have been elevated to comply with current FEMA flood regulations. That number continues to increase, as residents explore the option of elevating their homes. This is an important measure to consider to mitigate against future flooding events like Sandy.



Mayor's Message
August 2016

What can you do?

The most important thing you can do is to have a plan. Know what is important in the event of a storm. Are there certain items in your house that should be preserved? Do you have a place to go in the event of evacuation? Have you reviewed your flood insurance & homeowners insurance annually? Do you have the proper coverage in place in the event of a future storm?

As you keep up with upcoming storms, be aware of the new Potential Storm Surge Flooding Maps you may see on TV. These maps depict geographical areas where storm surge flooding could occur, and the reasonable worst case scenario of the potential height of water above ground in normally dry land areas.



Dave Marks, Mayor Ekdahl, Dr. Knabb, Tom Rogers

attended a meeting, hosted by the Monmouth County Office of Emergency Management, where the Director of the National Hurricane Center, Dr. Rick Knabb, introduced the new mapping to government officials in New Jersey. The new mapping will be use by the Borough to plan for incoming storms and to identify areas to be evacuated when necessary.

Follow these tips and timeline in the event of a hurricane:

- **Be prepared in advance:** Put together a disaster supply kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, and copies of your critical information if you need to evacuate. Have a plan for a place to stay in the event of evacuation. Don't forget to sign up for the alert and text system for emergency notifications. Sign up at rumsonnj.gov
- **Hurricane Watch:** Conditions are possible in the next 48 hours. Listen to local officials and make sure you are fully stocked with emergency supplies.

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Build a Kit. Be Prepared.

www.ready.gov/kit



- **Hurricane Warning:** Conditions are expected in the next 36 hours. Follow evacuation orders (if given), and check in with family and friends. Follow these hurricane preparedness guidelines:
 - **Hurricane is 36 hours from arriving:** Review your evacuation plan with your family. Keep your car in working condition, with a full gas tank, and stocked with emergency supplies.
 - **Hurricane is 18-36 hours from arriving:** Always closely monitor storm updates on radio or TV. Cover all windows, and bring in any light-weight objects like furniture, toys, garbage cans, and tools.
 - **Hurricane is 6 hours from arriving:** Turn on your TV or radio, and check the Borough website for updates and emergency instructions regularly. In case of a power outage, turn your refrigerator/freezer to the coldest setting and open only when necessary, so that food will keep longer.
 - **If an evacuation order is given, you need to be ready to leave your home and relocate inland until the all clear is given.**

Private Utility Infrastructure Upgrades

As part of its New Jersey Reinvestment in System Enhancements (NJ RISE) program, approved by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities in 2014, New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG) is adding a secondary feed from Rumson to Sea Bright to enhance the resiliency of its distribution system and to help mitigate the impact of future weather events. The Project has two phases:

- 1) a new feed under the Shrewsbury River and
- 2) the renewal of NJNG’s existing facilities in the eastern portion of Rumson.

Once complete, the Project will have replaced 12,500 feet of main.

NJNG is also replacing aged infrastructure in other sections of the peninsula as part of its Safety Acceleration and Facility Enhancement (SAFE) program. This work which has been underway since spring, is expected to be complete by year end. As a result of this work, when complete, NJNG will have replaced 41,000 feet of aged pipe.

In addition, New Jersey American Water (NJAW) plans to replace and relocate its transmission main that crosses the Shrewsbury River. The project will involve installing more than 1,000 feet of 16-inch pipe under the Shrewsbury River from Rumson Road to Ocean Avenue Sea Bright.

Construction of both river crossings is expected to begin during the winter of 2016/2017 and last approximately two months. As a result of the Borough’s guidance, both NJNG and NJAW are working together using the same drill team to minimize impact on our residents.

They will be utilizing state-of-the-art Horizontal Directional Drill technology. This technology also allows the pipe to be buried approximately 30 feet beneath the riverbed, which will provide better protection from natural disasters. The project will begin on Rumson Road east of South Ward Avenue and end on Ocean Avenue in Sea Bright.

The culmination of these projects will greatly enhance NJNG & NJAW’s ability to deliver the safe, reliable service to residents in Rumson and Sea Bright. Thank you for your patience during this important upgrade to the infrastructure in our community.



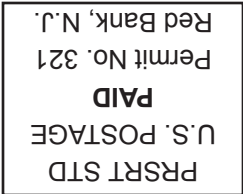
Fall Events...

- **R&FH Movies in the Park** – September 10 – see www.rumsonrec.org for details

Useful Weather Preparedness Web Sites

- Borough of Rumson Local Elevation and Flood Awareness Guide:
<http://www.rumsonnj.gov/announcements/borough-of-rumson-local-elevation-and-flood-awareness-guide>
- New Jersey OEM Hurricane Survival Guide:
<https://www.mcsonj.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Hurrsurvguide81512.pdf>
- Your Family Disaster Plan:
http://www.state.nj.us/njoem/preparedness_fampln.html
- National Hurricane Center:
<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/ready.php>

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